

THE EUGENICS SOCIETY

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING was held at 69 Eccleston Square, S.W.1, on Tuesday, June 16th, 1942, at 5 o'clock, with the President, Lord Horder, in the Chair.

MINUTES. The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday, June 17th, 1941, which were contained in the Annual Report for 1941-2 (copies of which were distributed at the Meeting) were taken as read and signed as correct.

ANNUAL REPORT. The Chairman presented the Annual Report, the formal adoption of which was seconded by Mr. Titmuss and carried unanimously.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS AND BALANCE SHEET. The Honorary Treasurer presented the Statement of Accounts and Balance Sheet for the year ended December 31st, 1941. These were unanimously adopted. The Honorary Treasurer said that he would like to point out that for the past year the *Society* had been able to live within its income, partly because its activities had been greatly reduced on account of the war. Arising out of this statement, Mrs. Hodson asked if the question of lectures to members of H.M. Forces from the *Society* had been considered. Dr. Lewis said that a panel of lecturers, on various subjects, to H.M. Forces was in existence, and undertook to find out

more about this, and those Fellows and Members who were present were asked to send in to him the names and addresses of anyone whom they considered would be suitable speakers. It was agreed that a special meeting of the Emergency Committee should be held in July, on a date to be arranged, in order that the matter could be discussed.

HONORARY OFFICERS AND COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 1942-3. Following the procedure of the two previous years, it was proposed by Miss Robertson, seconded by Mrs. Jenkins, and carried unanimously, that the Honorary Officers and Council should remain as appointed on May 16th, 1939, with the exception of the following: Lord Salvesen (whose death had been recorded), Sir Charles Arden-Close (who resigned last year), and Professor Fisher, Dr. Fraser Roberts, and Dr. Thornton (whose resignations had already been reported and accepted); and that the Emergency Committee for the ensuing year should consist of the following: The Lord Horder, Mr. Cecil Binney, Mr. B. S. Bramwell, Mr. C. F. Chance, Miss E. Corry, Hon. Mrs. Grant Duff, Mr. W. T. J. Gun, Mrs. E. M. Hubback, Dr. A. J. Lewis, Mr. R. Martin, and Mr. R. M. Titmuss.

ELECTION OF AUDITORS FOR THE YEAR 1942-3. Messrs. West & Drake were unanimously re-elected.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1942-3

In this Report, the accounts relate to the period December 31st, 1941, to December 31st, 1942. The rest of the Report covers the period from March 31st, 1942, to March 31st, 1943.

The Report has been made as brief as possible owing to existing conditions.

General.—During the past year, the affairs of the *Society* have been carried on by an Emergency Committee formed from the

Council. The names of the members of this committee are starred in the list of the Honorary Officers and Council which is given on the inside of the front page of the cover. Six meetings of this committee have been held in the period under review.

It has been the general policy of the Emergency Committee to reduce activities and expenditure during the war. In the last six months, however, there has been a revival

of certain activities which have been suspended since September 1939. These are described below.

In October 1942, Dr. C. P. Blacker, the *Society's* General Secretary before the war, returned to London, having been temporarily seconded from the army, in order to work under the Emergency Medical Services. During this period he will act as the *Society's* Honorary Secretary.

Population.—The Population Investigation Committee, of which Mr. A. M. Carr-Saunders is Chairman and Dr. Blacker Honorary Secretary, has been revived. Dr. M. J. Elsas has been appointed its General Secretary. Its headquarters will continue to be at the *Society's* house, at 69 Eccleston Square. The *Society* has made a grant of £500 a year for two years.

The Population Policies Committee, which before the war was jointly composed of members of the Council of the *Society* and of P.E.P., and was financed by the *Society*, has also been revived. Mr. François Lafitte continues to act as its secretary and he will be assisted by Mr. Julius Isaac. The *Society* has made a grant of up to £450 for a period of a year.

Family Allowances.—Sir William Beveridge, in his report, recommended a flat-rate scheme of family allowances, beginning with the second child, payable to families in all income groups. In his Galton lecture, Sir William made it clear that it was in his view not only possible but desirable that graded family allowance schemes, applicable to families in the higher income groups, be administered concurrently with his flat-rate scheme.

The graded family allowance has long been advocated by the *Society*, and has been espoused since the publication of the Beveridge report by the Family Endowment Society, to which a grant of £250 has been made.

Society's Premises.—The second floor has continued to be occupied by the Family Planning Association rent free.

The self-contained maisonnette on the third and fourth floors, which suffered some

damage from enemy action in 1941, has been put in order.

Galton Lecture.—The *Society* was fortunate in securing as the Galton Lecturer Sir William Beveridge, who, on February 16th, 1943, addressed a meeting of Fellows, Members and guests at Manson House, on *Eugenic Aspects of Children's Allowances*. The lecture was followed by a spirited discussion. A full report appeared in the January 1943 issue of the *EUGENICS REVIEW*.

Major Leonard Darwin.—The *Society* has suffered the grievous loss of its honoured and beloved Honorary President, Major Leonard Darwin, of whom appreciations were published in the *EUGENICS REVIEW* of January 1943.

Lectures.—Seven lectures have been given on behalf of the *Society*, four by Mrs. Poole and one each by Mrs. Grant Duff, Mrs. Tamplin and Mr. B. S. Bramwell. The *Society's* film, *From Generation to Generation*, has been out on loan six times. The Paddington Health Week was held at Whiteley's Store from April 20th to 25th, and Mrs. Poole was in attendance at the *Society's* exhibit.

Finance.—The usual statement of Income and Expenditure, Balance Sheet and List of Investments will be found at the end of this Report, with corresponding figures for the previous year. It will be seen that last year there was an excess of income over expenditure of £1,484 12s. The *Society* has received notice of a legacy of £2,000 from the late Mr. J. H. Curle, whose death is recorded elsewhere in this Report.

Library.—Twenty-seven new books have been added to the Library during the year. The *Society* is again indebted to Miss Corry for her valuable services as Honorary Librarian.

EUGENICS REVIEW.—The circulation of the *REVIEW* has again dropped slightly during the year, due chiefly to a reduction from 100 to 50 in the copies sent each quarter to the Eugenics Society of Victoria. Dr. Newfield's improved health enabled him to resume the editorship of the *REVIEW* in the early summer of 1942; and the *Society*

is most appreciative of the able editing of the issues for January and April 1942 by Mr. R. M. Titmuss during Dr. Newfield's absence.

Obituary.—We regret to record the deaths of the following: Mr. F. L. Bland, Mr. J. H. Curle, Major Leonard Darwin, Sir Daniel Hall, Miss Marion Holmes, Mrs. Lethbridge, Rao Bahadur Natesa Aiyar, Dr. Charles Pinching, Mrs. Standfield, and Dr. Styles.

Register of Fellows and Members.—An analysis is presented of the *Society's* Register

for the period April 1st, 1942, to March 31st, 1943:

	<i>Life</i> <i>Fellows</i>	<i>Fellows</i>	<i>Mbrs.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Total, March 31st, 1942	67	185	219	471
Elections, 1942/3 ...	1	4	15	20
	68	189	234	491
<i>Less—</i>				
Deceased ...	3	4	3	10
Resigned ...	—	5	6	11
Lapsed or Suspended	—	9	9	18
Total, March 31st, 1943	65	171	216	452
Affiliated Societies ...	—	—	—	3